

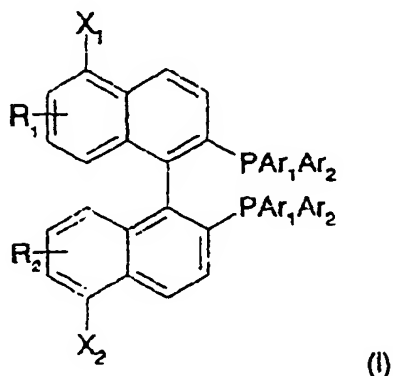
**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**LISTING OF CLAIMS:**

1. through 64. (Canceled).

65. (Currently Amended): A diphosphine in racemic form or in chiral form, corresponding to formula (I):



(I)

in said formula:

- R<sub>1</sub> and R<sub>2</sub>, which are identical or different, represent a hydrogen atom or a substituent selected from the group consisting of alkyl groups having 1 to 6 carbon atoms and alkoxy groups having 1 to 6 carbon atoms,
- Ar<sub>1</sub> and Ar<sub>2</sub> independently represent an alkyl, alkenyl, cycloalkyl, aryl or arylalkyl group,
- X<sub>1</sub> and X<sub>2</sub>, which are identical or different, represent:  
an alkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, cycloalkyl, aryl or arylalkyl group,

an alkyl group substituted with one or more halogen atoms, or with nitro or ~~amine~~ groups,

a halogen atom selected from the group consisting of bromine, chlorine and iodine,

an -OH group,

a group -O-COR<sub>a</sub>,

a group -O-R<sub>a</sub>,

a group -S-R<sub>a</sub>,

~~a CN group,~~

~~a group selected from the group consisting of:~~

~~a CH<sub>2</sub>-NH<sub>2</sub> group, and~~

~~a COOH group,~~

a group selected from the group consisting of:

a group -COOR<sub>a</sub>,

a -CH<sub>2</sub>OH group, and

a group -CO-NH-R<sub>b</sub>,

a group selected from the group consisting of:

a group -CH<sub>2</sub>-NH-CO-R<sub>b</sub>,

a group -CH<sub>2</sub>-NH-CO-NH-R<sub>b</sub>,

a group -CH<sub>2</sub>-N=CH-R<sub>a</sub>,

a -CH<sub>2</sub>-N=C=O group, and

a -CH<sub>2</sub>-NH<sub>4</sub><sup>+</sup> group,

a group selected from the group consisting of:

a group -N=CH-R<sub>a</sub>,

an -NH-NH<sub>2</sub> group,

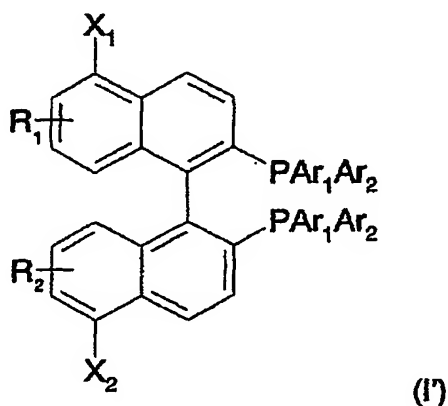
an  $-N=N^+=N^-$  group, and

an  $-N=C=O$  group,

a magnesium or lithium atom,

in the various formulae,  $R_a$  represents an alkyl, cycloalkyl, arylalkyl or phenyl group and  $R_b$  has the meaning given for  $R_a$  and also represents a naphthyl group.

66. (Currently Amended): The diphosphine as claimed in claim 65, bearing two functional groups capable of reacting with one or more polymerizable monomers corresponding to the general formula (I'):



in said formula:

- $R_1$  and  $R_2$ , which are identical or different, represent a hydrogen atom or a substituent,
- $Ar_1$  and  $Ar_2$  independently represent an alkyl, alkenyl, cycloalkyl, aryl or arylalkyl group,
- $X_1$  and  $X_2$ , which are identical, represent:
  - an  $-OH$  group,
  - a  $-CH_2OH$  group,
  - $-CH_2-NH_2$ ,
  - a  $-COOH$  group,

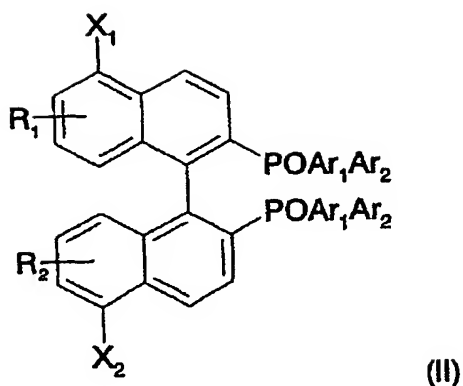
a group  $\text{-COOR}_a$  in which  $R_a$  represents an alkyl, cycloalkyl, arylalkyl or phenyl group,  
an  $\text{-N=C=O}$  group, or  
a  $\text{-CH}_2\text{-N=C=O}$  group.

67. (Previously Presented): The diphosphine as claimed in claim 65, wherein in formula (I),  $\text{Ar}_1$  and  $\text{Ar}_2$  represent a  $(\text{C}_1\text{-C}_6)$ alkyl group, a phenyl group optionally substituted with one or more  $(\text{C}_1\text{-C}_6)$ alkyl or  $(\text{C}_1\text{-C}_6)$ alkoxy; or a  $(\text{C}_4\text{-C}_8)$ cycloalkyl group optionally substituted with one or more  $(\text{C}_1\text{-C}_6)$ alkyl groups.

68. (Currently Amended): The diphosphine as claimed in claim 65, wherein in formula (I),  $R_1$  and  $R_2$ , which are identical or different, represent a hydrogen atom or an alkyl or alkoxy group containing from 1 to 4 carbon atoms,  $\text{Ar}_1$  and  $\text{Ar}_2$  represent a phenyl group ~~and  $R_1$  and  $R_2$  represent a hydrogen atom~~, and  $X_1$  and  $X_2$ , which are identical, represent:

a halogen atom, or  
an alkyl group substituted with one or more fluorine atoms[[,]]  
~~a CN group,~~  
~~a  $\text{-CH}_2\text{-NH}_2$  group, or~~  
~~a  $\text{-COOH}$  group.~~

69. (Withdrawn): A diphosphine in dioxide form, in racemic form or in chiral form corresponding to formula (II):



in which in said formula:

- $R_1$  and  $R_2$ , which are identical or different, represent a hydrogen atom or a substituent,
- $Ar_1$  and  $Ar_2$  independently represent an alkyl, alkenyl, cycloalkyl, aryl or arylalkyl group,
- $X_1$  and  $X_2$ , which are identical or different, represent:
  - a group R, alkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, cycloalkyl, aryl or arylalkyl,
  - an alkyl group substituted with one or more halogen atoms, preferably fluorine, or with nitro or amino groups,
  - a halogen atom chosen from bromine, chlorine and iodine,
  - an -OH group,
  - a group -O-COR<sub>a</sub>,
  - a group -O-R<sub>a</sub>,
  - a group -S-R<sub>a</sub>,
  - a -CN group,
  - a group derived from the nitrile group such as:
    - a -CH<sub>2</sub>-NH<sub>2</sub> group,
    - a -COOH group,

a group derived from the carboxylic group such as:

a group  $-\text{COOR}_a$ ,

a  $-\text{CH}_2\text{OH}$  group,

a group  $-\text{CO}-\text{NH}-\text{R}_b$ ,

a group derived from the aminomethyl group such as:

a group  $-\text{CH}_2-\text{NH}-\text{CO}-\text{R}_b$ ,

a group  $-\text{CH}_2-\text{NH}-\text{CO}-\text{NH}-\text{R}_b$ ,

a group  $-\text{CH}_2-\text{N}=\text{CH}-\text{R}_a$ ,

a  $-\text{CH}_2-\text{N}=\text{C}=\text{O}$  group,

a  $-\text{CH}_2-\text{NH}_4^+$  group,

a group comprising a nitrogen atom such as:

a group  $-\text{NHR}_a$ ,

a group  $-\text{N}(\text{R}_a)_2$ ,

a group  $-\text{N}=\text{CH}-\text{R}_a$ ,

an  $-\text{NH}-\text{NH}_2$  group,

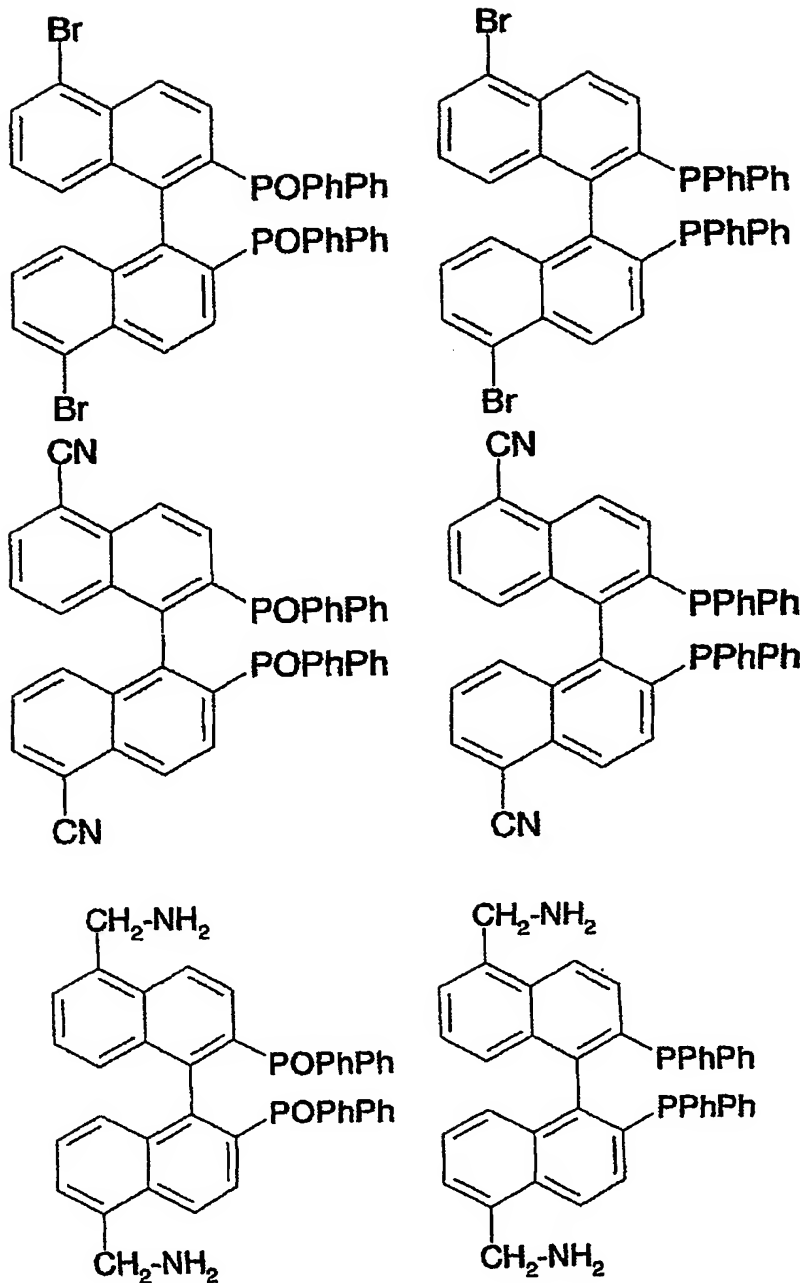
an  $-\text{N}=\text{N}^+=\text{N}^-$  group,

an  $-\text{N}=\text{C}=\text{O}$  group, or

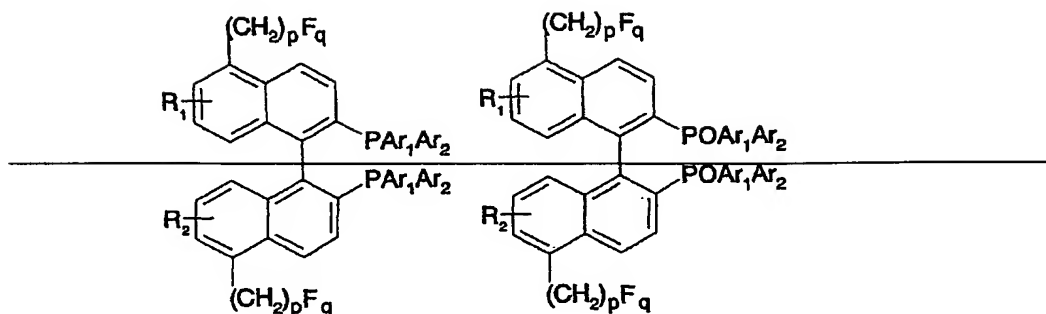
a magnesium or lithium atom,

in the various formulae,  $\text{R}_a$  represents an alkyl, cycloalkyl, arylalkyl or phenyl group and  $\text{R}_b$  has the meaning given for  $\text{R}_a$  and also represents a naphthyl group.

70. (Withdrawn): The diphosphine or diphosphine in dioxide form as claimed in claim 69, wherein it corresponds to one of the following formulae:

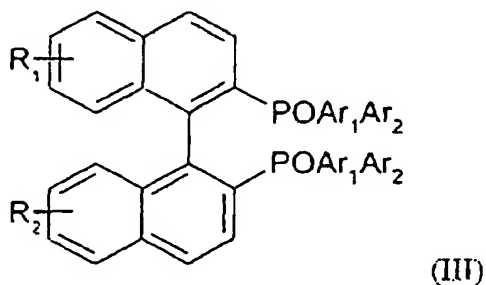


71. (Withdrawn-Currently Amended): The diposphine or ~~diphosphine in dioxide form~~  
as claimed in claim 65 ~~having one of the following formulae:~~



wherein  $X_1$  and  $X_2$ , which are identical, represent a perfluoroalkyl group  $C_pF_{2p+1}$  in which  $p$  is between 1 and 15, optionally between 6 and 10,  $q$  is between 3 and 21, optionally between 13 and 25.

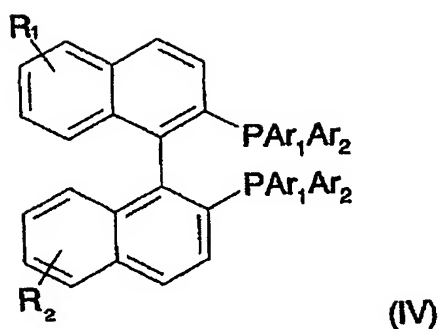
72. (Withdrawn-Currently Amended): A process for preparing a diphosphine or a diphosphine in dioxide form as defined in claim 65, comprising at least one step of halogenation in position 5,5' of a compound of formula (III):



in said formula  $R_1$ ,  $R_2$ ,  $Ar_1$  and  $Ar_2$  have the same meanings given above as in formula (I), said halogenation being optionally performed in an inert aprotic solvent.

73. (Withdrawn-Currently Amended): The process as claimed in claim 72, wherein the diphosphine in dioxide form of formula (III) is obtained by oxidation of the chiral or achiral diphosphine of formula (IV):



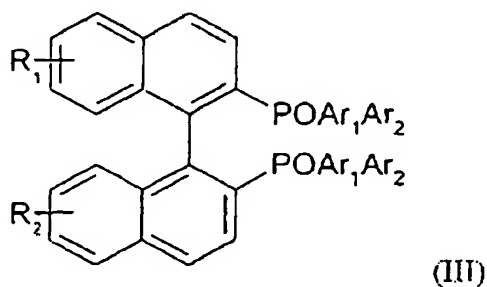


in said formula:

- R<sub>1</sub>, R<sub>2</sub>, Ar<sub>1</sub> and Ar<sub>2</sub> having the same meanings given above as in formula (I).

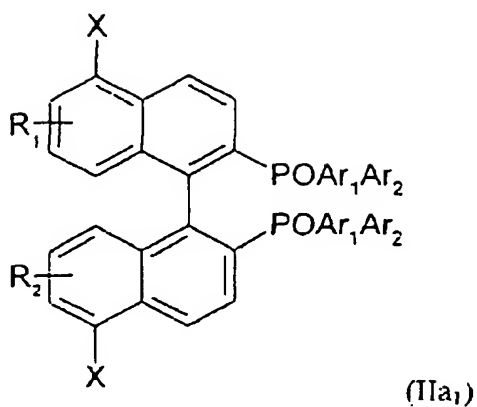
74. (Previously Presented): A process for preparing the diphosphine corresponding to formula (I) as defined in claim 65, and wherein X<sub>1</sub> and X<sub>2</sub> represent a halogen atom, said process comprising the following steps:

- i) performing an halogenation in the 5,5' position of a compound of formula (III):



wherein:

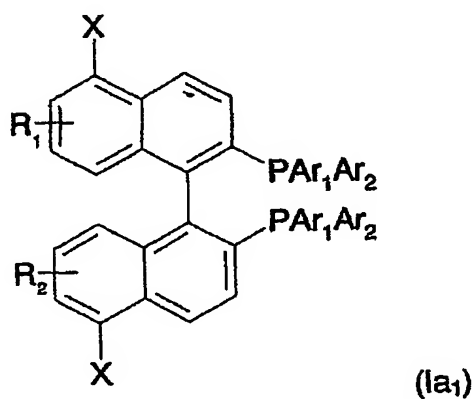
- R<sub>1</sub>, R<sub>2</sub>, Ar<sub>1</sub> and Ar<sub>2</sub> have the same meanings as in formula (I),  
using a halogen and in the presence of iron, so as to obtain the corresponding dihalo compound of formula:



in said formula:

- X represents a chlorine, bromine or iodine atom,
- R<sub>1</sub>, R<sub>2</sub>, Ar<sub>1</sub> and Ar<sub>2</sub> have the meanings given above; and

ii) performing the reduction of the diphosphine in dioxide and dihalo form in position 5,5' of formula (IIa<sub>1</sub>), into the diphosphine of formula (Ia<sub>1</sub>):

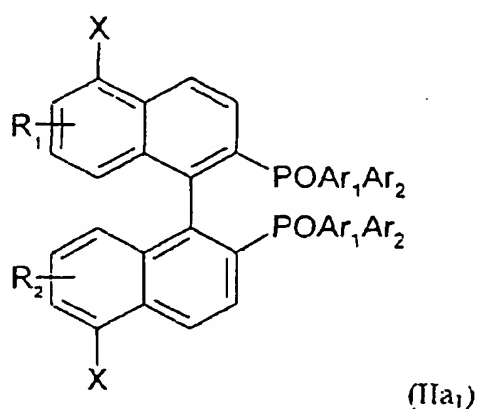


in said formula:

- X represents a chlorine, bromine or iodine atom, and
- R<sub>1</sub>, R<sub>2</sub>, Ar<sub>1</sub> and Ar<sub>2</sub> having the meanings given above.

75. (Withdrawn-Currently Amended): A process for preparing the diphosphine corresponding to formula (I) or (I') as defined in claim 65 and wherein  $X_1$  and  $X_2$  represent a -CN group, comprising the following steps:

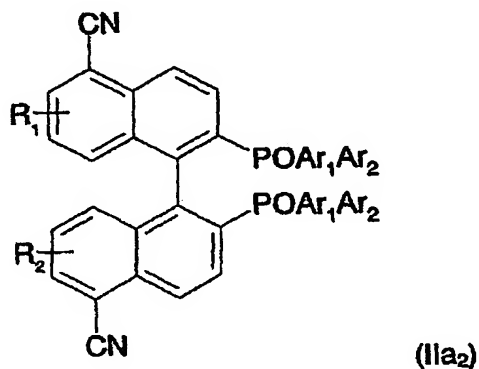
i) performing a cyanation by the substitution of the two halogen atoms, optionally in the presence of copper cyanide, with cyano groups by reacting the diphosphine in dioxide and dihalo form in position 5,5' of formula (IIa<sub>1</sub>):



in said formula:

- X represents a chlorine, bromine or iodine atom,
- R<sub>1</sub>, R<sub>2</sub>, Ar<sub>1</sub> and Ar<sub>2</sub> have the meanings given above,

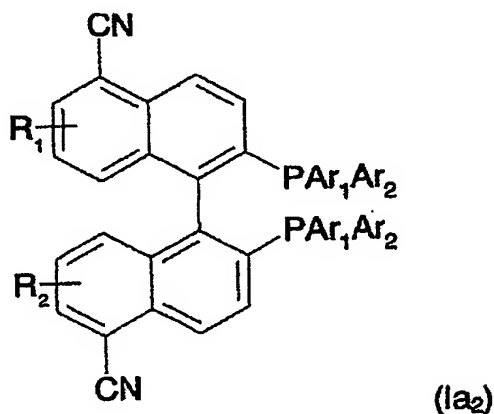
using a suitable nucleophilic reagent so as to obtain the corresponding dicyano compound (IIa<sub>2</sub>):



in said formula:

- R<sub>1</sub>, R<sub>2</sub>, Ar<sub>1</sub> and Ar<sub>2</sub> have the meanings given above, and

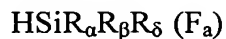
ii) performing the reduction of the diphosphine in dioxide and dicyano form in position 5,5' of formula (IIa<sub>2</sub>) into the diphosphine of formula (Ia<sub>2</sub>):



in said formula:

- R<sub>1</sub>, R<sub>2</sub>, Ar<sub>1</sub> and Ar<sub>2</sub> have the meanings given above.

76. (Withdrawn): The process as claimed claim 75, wherein the reduction of the diphosphine in dioxide form is performed using a hydrogenosilane of formula:

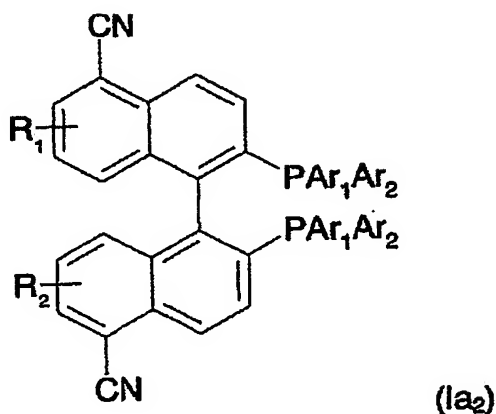


in said formula:

- R<sub>α</sub>R<sub>β</sub> and R<sub>δ</sub>, which are identical or different, represent a hydrogen atom, an alkyl group containing from 1 to 6 carbon atoms, a phenyl group or a chlorine atom, and
- at most two of the groups R<sub>α</sub>R<sub>β</sub> and R<sub>δ</sub>, represent a hydrogen atom, and optionally using a mixture of PhSiH<sub>3</sub> (or PMHS) and HSiCl<sub>3</sub>.

77. (Withdrawn-Currently Amended): A process for preparing the diphosphine as defined in claim 65, wherein X<sub>1</sub> and X<sub>2</sub> represent a -CH<sub>2</sub>-NH<sub>2</sub> group, said process comprising a

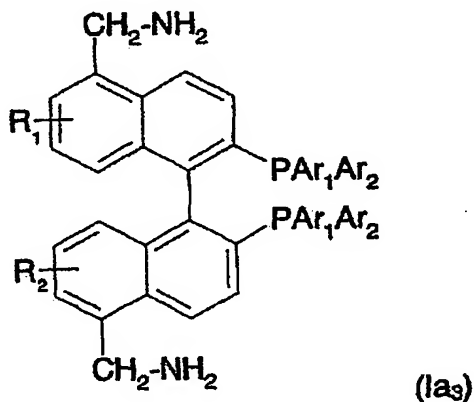
step of reducing, optionally in the presence of lithium aluminum hydride ( $\text{LiAlH}_4$ ), the cyano group of the compound of formula ( $\text{Ia}_2$ ):



in said formula:

- $\text{R}_1$ ,  $\text{R}_2$ ,  $\text{Ar}_1$  and  $\text{Ar}_2$  have the meanings given above,

leading to the corresponding diaminomethyl compound of formula ( $\text{Ia}_3$ ):

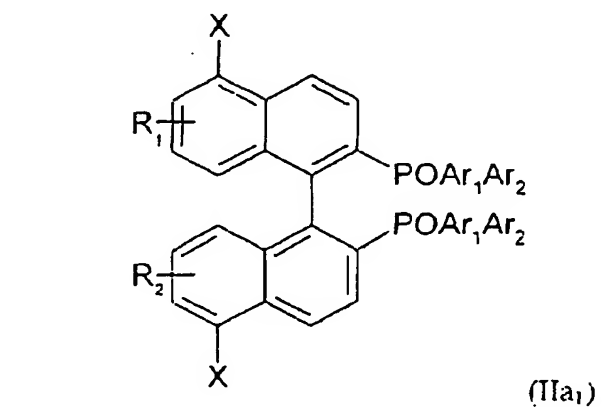


in said formula:

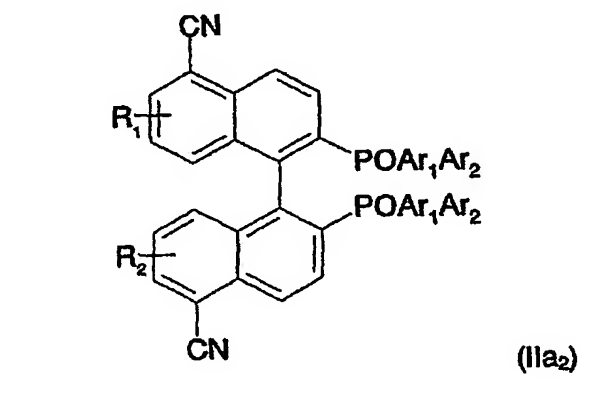
- $\text{R}_1$ ,  $\text{R}_2$ ,  $\text{Ar}_1$  and  $\text{Ar}_2$  have the meanings given above.

78. (Withdrawn-Currently Amended): The process for preparing the diphosphine as defined in claim 65, wherein  $\text{X}_1$  and  $\text{X}_2$  represent a  $-\text{COOH}$  group comprising the steps of:

i) performing a cyanation by the substitution of the two halogen atoms, optionally in the presence of copper cyanide, with cyano groups by reacting the diphosphine in dioxide and dihalo form in position 5,5' of formula (IIa<sub>1</sub>):



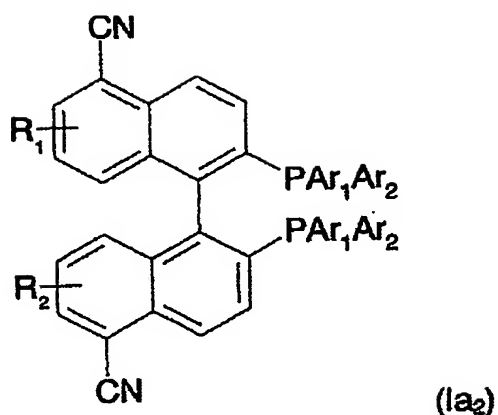
in said formula: X represents a chlorine, bromine or iodine atom, R<sub>1</sub>, R<sub>2</sub>, Ar<sub>1</sub> and Ar<sub>2</sub> have the meaning given above, using a suitable nucleophilic reagent so as to obtain the corresponding dicyano compound (IIa<sub>2</sub>):



in said formula:

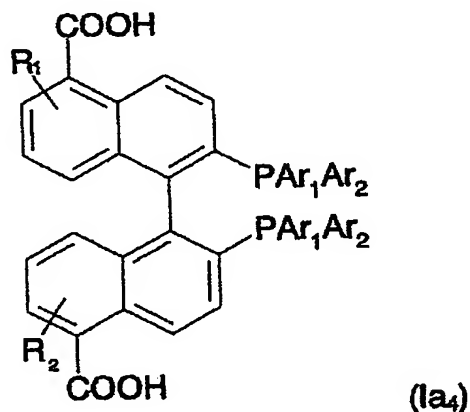
- R<sub>1</sub>, R<sub>2</sub>, Ar<sub>1</sub> and Ar<sub>2</sub> have the meanings given above, and

ii) performing the reduction of the diphosphine in dioxide and dicyano form in position 5,5' of formula (IIa<sub>2</sub>) into the diphosphine of formula (Ia<sub>2</sub>):



in said formula:

- R<sub>1</sub>, R<sub>2</sub>, Ar<sub>1</sub> and Ar<sub>2</sub> have the meaning given above; and, then,
- iii) treating, in acidic medium or in basic medium, the compound of formula (Ia<sub>2</sub>), so as to obtain the corresponding carboxylic acid of formula (Ia<sub>4</sub>):

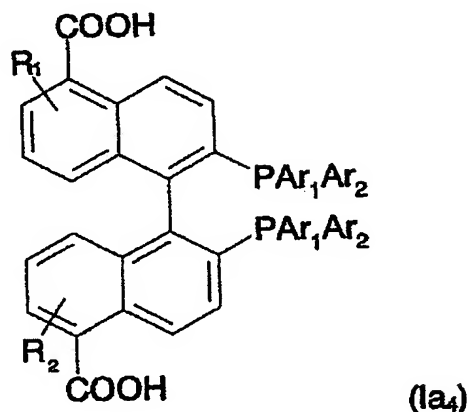


in said formula:

- R<sub>1</sub>, R<sub>2</sub>, Ar<sub>1</sub> and Ar<sub>2</sub> have the meanings given above.

79. (Withdrawn-Currently Amended): The process for preparing the diphosphine as defined in claim 65, wherein X<sub>1</sub> and X<sub>2</sub> represent a group -COOR<sub>a</sub> in which R<sub>a</sub> represents an

alkyl, cycloalkyl, arylalkyl or phenyl group, comprising the step of performing the direct esterification of a compound of formula (Ia<sub>4</sub>):



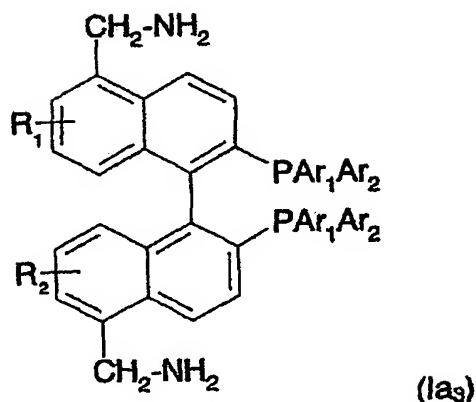
in said formula:

- R<sub>1</sub>, R<sub>2</sub>, Ar<sub>1</sub> and Ar<sub>2</sub> have the same meanings given above as in formula (I).

80. (Withdrawn): A polymer in racemic or optically active form, made by reaction of a chiral or achiral diphosphine of formula (I') as defined in claim 66, with one or more polymerizable monomers.

81. (Withdrawn-Currently Amended): The polymer as claimed in claim 80, wherein the diphosphine corresponds to formula (Ia<sub>3</sub>) as follows:





in said formula: R<sub>1</sub>, R<sub>2</sub>, Ar<sub>1</sub> and Ar<sub>2</sub> have the same meanings given above as in formula (I').

82. (Withdrawn-Currently Amended): The polymer as claimed in claim 80, wherein the monomer reacted with the diphosphine corresponds to formula (X) below:

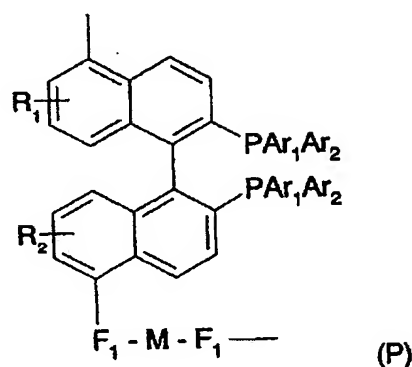


in which:

- M represents a divalent hydrocarbon-based group of aliphatic, alicyclic and/or aromatic nature, and
- Y<sub>1</sub> represents ~~a functional group, optionally~~ a carboxylic, ester, hydroxyl, amino, isocyanato, aldehyde or ketone group.

83. (Withdrawn-Currently Amended): The polymer as claimed in claim 82, wherein the monomer reacted with the diphosphine corresponds to formula (X) in which M represents a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>12</sub> ~~and preferably C<sub>4</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-alkylene chain; a cycloalkylene group, preferably cyclohexylene; or an~~ arylene group, ~~preferably phenylene, tolylene or naphthalene.~~

84. (Withdrawn-Currently Amended): A polymer in racemic or optically active form comprising the following repeating unit:



in which

- $R_1$  and  $R_2$ , which are identical or different, represent a hydrogen atom or a substituent,
- $Ar_1$  and  $Ar_2$  independently represent an alkyl, alkenyl, cycloalkyl, aryl or arylalkyl group,
- $M$  represents a divalent hydrocarbon-based group of aliphatic, alicyclic and/or aromatic nature;
- $F_1$  represents a functional group resulting from the reaction:
  - of the group  $X_1$  chosen from the following groups: aminomethyl, hydroxyl, hydroxymethyl, carboxylic, ester, isocyanato, isocyanatomethyl, and
  - of the group  $Y_1$  chosen from carboxylic, ester, hydroxyl, amino, isocyanato, aldehyde and ketone groups, and
- the degree of polymerization is optionally between 2 and 100.

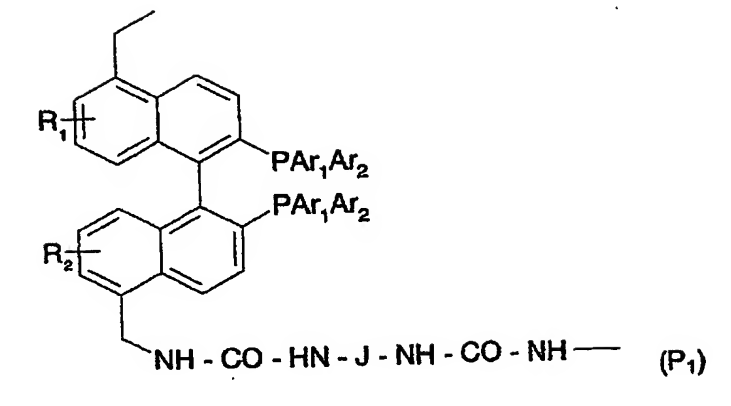
85. (Withdrawn): The polymer as claimed in claim 84, wherein in formula (P), M represents a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>12</sub> and optionally C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkylene chain; a cycloalkylene group, cyclohexylene; an arylene group, phenylene, tolylene or naphthalene.

86. (Withdrawn): The polymer as claimed in claim 84, wherein in formula (P), F<sub>1</sub> represents:

- a urea group (F<sub>1</sub>) resulting from the reaction of an aminomethyl group (X<sub>1</sub>) with an isocyanato group (Y<sub>1</sub>) or an isocyanato or isocyanatomethyl group (X<sub>1</sub>) with an amino group (Y<sub>1</sub>),
- a urethane group (F<sub>1</sub>) resulting from the reaction of an isocyanato or isocyanatomethyl group (X<sub>1</sub>) with a hydroxyl group (Y<sub>1</sub>) or a hydroxyl or hydroxymethyl group (X<sub>1</sub>) with an isocyanato group (Y<sub>1</sub>),
- an ester group (F<sub>1</sub>) resulting from the reaction of a carboxylic or ester group (X<sub>1</sub>) with a hydroxyl group (Y<sub>1</sub>) or a hydroxyl or hydroxymethyl group (X<sub>1</sub>) which a carboxylic or ester group (Y<sub>1</sub>),
- an amide group (F<sub>1</sub>) resulting from the reaction of a carboxylic group (X<sub>1</sub>) with an amino group (Y<sub>1</sub>) or an aminomethyl group (X<sub>1</sub>) with a carboxylic group (Y<sub>1</sub>), or
- an imine group (F<sub>1</sub>) resulting from the reaction of an aminomethyl group (X<sub>1</sub>) with an aldehyde or ketone group (Y<sub>1</sub>).

87. (Withdrawn): The polymer as claimed in claim 80, wherein the polymer is a polyurea, polyamide, polyimide, polyimine, polyester or polyurethane.

88. (Withdrawn-Currently Amended): The polymer as claimed in claim 84, wherein ~~it~~ the polymer is a polymer of polyurea type containing the repeating unit:

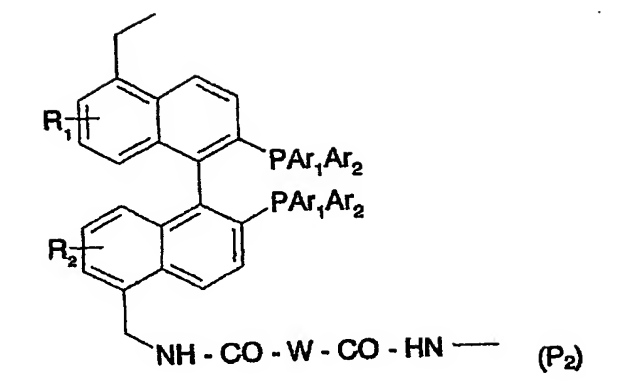


in which:

- $R_1$  and  $R_2$ , which are identical or different, represent a hydrogen atom or a substituent,
- $Ar_1$  and  $Ar_2$  independently represent an alkyl, alkenyl, cycloalkyl, aryl or arylalkyl group,
- $J$  represents a divalent hydrocarbon-based group of aliphatic, alicyclic and/or aromatic nature, and
- the degree of polymerization is optionally between 2 and 100.

89. (Withdrawn): A process for preparing the polyurea as claimed in claim 88, wherein a diphosphine bearing two  $-\text{CH}_2\text{-NH}_2$  groups is polymerized with one or more di- or polyisocyanates.

90. (Withdrawn-Currently Amended): The polymer as claimed in claim 80, wherein ~~it~~ the polymer is a polyamide containing the repeating unit:



in which:

- $R_1$  and  $R_2$ , which are identical or different, represent a hydrogen atom or a substituent,
- $Ar_1$  and  $Ar_2$  independently represent an alkyl, alkenyl, cycloalkyl, aryl or arylalkyl group,
- $W$  represents a divalent hydrocarbon-based group of aliphatic, alicyclic and/or aromatic nature, and
- the degree of polymerization is optionally between 2 and 100.

91. (Withdrawn): A transition metal complex comprising at least one ligand as defined in claim 65.

92. (Withdrawn): A transition metal complex comprising at least one ligand as defined in claim 80.

93. (Withdrawn): The complex as claimed in claim 91, wherein the transition metal is chosen from: rhodium, ruthenium, rhenium, iridium, cobalt, nickel, platinum and palladium.

94. (Previously Presented): The diphosphine as claimed in claim 66, wherein in formula (I'), Ar<sub>1</sub> and Ar<sub>2</sub> represent a (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>)alkyl group, a phenyl group optionally substituted with one or more (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>)alkyl or (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>)alkoxy; or a (C<sub>4</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>)cycloalkyl group optionally substituted with one or more (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>)alkyl groups.

95. (Canceled).